

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, September 2, 1876.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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Collector's Notices.

Mr. C. H. Franklin will call upon subscribers in Franklin county.

Mr. J. P. Clark will call upon subscribers in North Penobscot and Aroostook counties during the month of September.

Mr. S. N. Tauer will call upon our Subscribers in Hancock Co., during the month of September.

A Scrap of History.

On Thursday was celebrated at Bristol, R. I., the two hundredth anniversary of an event which was regarded as highly important to the infant colonies of New England. It was in the month of August, 1876, supposed to have been the 24th, that Philip whose Indian name was Metacomet, the great Indian strategist and warrior, was shot dead by a friendly Indian, at his hiding place near Mount Hope, in Rhode Island. The Old Colony and Rhode Island Historical Societies joined in the celebration, and there was an historical address and other services appropriate to the occasion.

Missatot, the father of Philip, was the firm friend of the Pilgrim settlers, and during his life there was the closest intimacy between the natives and the English emigrants.

Alexander succeeded his father as sachem of the Wampanoags, and in 1662 he, in turn, was succeeded by Philip. The head-quarters of this tribe of Indians was at Pokanoket, or Mount Hope. Philip had received something of an English education, and in his peregrinations about the colony had become thoroughly acquainted with the whites; he had bought, sold and exchanged hostilities with them, but during the whole time he had been laying plans for their destruction. He was shrewd, sagacious and far seeing, and in the success of the colonists he saw the destruction of his own race. His plans were deep and comprehensive, and it required great enterprise to undertake and address to mature them. It proposed a general union of all the Indians of New England, and of this great confederacy he was to be chief. By his consummate knowledge of the arts of savage policy, the quarels of centuries were reconciled, and all the New England tribes, laying aside for the time being their tribal differences, united in a common cause.

Philip was the schemer of a small and insignificant tribe, but by his great ability he raised himself to a prouder position than was ever before or since attained by any of the aboriginal race of North America.

The Narragansetts, one of the most powerful of the New England tribes, could muster four thousand warriors, and though the hereditary enemies of Philip's tribe, they heartily entered into the gigantic scheme. His plans were nearly matured before the white had the least knowledge of them, so well had the secret been kept. Philip's secretary, who had been his confidential adviser and knew the entire savage programme, incurred his displeasure, and fearing of the consequences, fled from Mount Hope and joined himself to the English. He divulged the plans of Philip, who thus turned his back and his body thrown into the river. Swanzey was the first town attacked, and every settler was either slain or made away. We cannot pursue the history of the bloody conflict, which raged for nearly two years. A large number of towns were burned, and the growth of the colonies was sadly retarded. Falmouth and other sea board towns in the District of Maine, were nearly depopulated. There were several fierce and bloody engagements between the colonists and the Indians, and deeds of extreme cruelty were perpetrated on both sides.

The prolongation of the war without any positive advantage to the savages, disheartened some of the allies of Philip, and they began to leave him. From that time his fortunes began to decline, and the colonies of Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay and Connecticut uniting for a common purpose, Philip was speedily placed on the defensive. The combined forces were placed under the command of General Josiah Winslow of Marshfield, the first native born governor of Plymouth colony. He was present at the swamp fight in 1675, when the Indians lost between three and four hundred killed, and the whites nearly as many. But the most notable Indian fighter during the war, was Capt. Benjamin Church, who had lived among the Indians and thoroughly understood their character and habits. He was called the "Miles Standish" of Rhode Island. Capt. Church had command of the English when Philip was driven to his last fortress near Mount Hope. Philip had shot an Indian who had advised him to sue for peace, and the brother of the murdered Indian deserted to Church and led him to Philip's hiding place. In attempting to escape Philip was shot by an Indian named Alderman. He was beheaded and quartered, and his head sent to Plymouth. This virtually closed the war and gave a season of peace to the colonies. In Philip's war thirteen towns were burned, an eleventh of the militia killed, and the colonies plunged deeply into debt.

Byles, the historian of Plymouth colony, in speaking of Philip says: "His talents were unquestionably of the first order. As a politician, he was the greatest of savages. He clearly foresees that the spreading dominion of the English, their arts, their knowledge, their discipline, and their constant numerical increase, would inevitably result in the expulsion of the aborigines from the land of their fathers. He saw that the period had arrived when the races could not exist together, and as clearly as the English power if not destroyed, would advance with the certainty of the tide, and with the force of the torrent. Many frightful stories have been told of the cruelties with which his warfare was disgraced, yet it is very doubtful if he ever ordered the torture of a single captive. His mode of making war was secret and terrible. He seemed like the demon of destruction, hurling his bolts in the darkness. Well indeed might he be called the 'terror of New England,' yet in no instance did he transgress the ordinary usages of Indian warfare."

The Lewiston Journal says that ten years ago Dr. Garcelon took hold of his eighty acre farm, just outside of Lewiston. That farm at that time bore an astonishingly black crop of stumps and trees of hay. He built an immense barn and a good farmhouse, and people stood off and laughed. But the doctor had an eye to the future, and he kept his men at work these ten years on that farm. This year it produced eighty tons of hay, and he is now getting in ten tons of second growth. In ten years he means to have a hundred tons of hay. He has the following stock: eighteen heifers, ten cows, a yoke of oxen, six horses and two bulls.

Monday was the 50th anniversary of the famous Wiles slide in the White Mountain Notch, and a large party from the Crawford and other houses met on the spot and appropriately noticed the event.

CITY NEWS AND Gossip. The Village Schools began Monday.—Mr. Adams of the Methodist Church, baptized five persons in the Kennebec, in the rear of our office, Sunday morning.—Rev. Smith Parker of Lowell, preached in the Grand Church Sunday.—The Winthrop Street Universal Sabbath School will be re-opened next Saturday, and the Sabbath School will be opened.

—A mask belonging to Mrs. M. Robinson dropped to the ground in Water street last Saturday morning, and died in a few minutes. Supposed case of apoplexy.

—The Augusta Base Ball Club played with the Ortons of Rangeley last week, and were beaten.—The Maine Central Free Baptist Yearly Meeting will be held in the city on the 6th and 7th of September.

—Many dealers are canvassing the city in interest of Chase Brothers, Nurseriesmen.

—Rev. Mr. Tilden of the Baptist Church, who had been away on a vacation, will occupy his pulpit next Sunday.—Mercury newspaper plus Monday Morning.—Thayer of the Mansfield House, has advertised for another auction on Thursday, Sept. 7. Farm, horses and carriages and other property will be offered for sale.—Orren Parker has nice white wine vinegar for pickling; all pickle makers use it.

—A despatch from Providence, R. I., says that the Sprague Cotton Mills in this city, which have been shut down for several weeks, are soon to start up again.—Miss Mary S. Keene, assistant teacher in the Grammar School, has resigned, and Miss M. P. Norton has been promoted to the position. Miss Mary Stiles of Gorham, N. H., takes Miss Norton's place as second assistant. Miss Addie Blake of the Crosby street primary, has resigned, and Miss Lizzie Avery succeeds her.

—The new Masonic hall will be thrown open to the public inspection on Thursday afternoon and evening of this week. The room for the accommodation of the fraternities have been elegantly and commodiously refitted and enlarged, and are in every respect adapted to the growing requirements of the order in this city, which was never in a more prosperous condition than at present.—The Henry Morrison will be in Hallowell about the middle of September.

—Secretary Morrill is now on a brief visit to his home in the city. He was recently married, sold and exchanged hostilities with them, but during the whole time he had been laying plans for their destruction. He was shrewd, sagacious and far seeing, and in the success of the colonists he saw the destruction of his own race. His plans were deep and comprehensive, and it required great enterprise to undertake and address to mature them. It proposed a general union of all the Indians of New England, and of this great confederacy he was to be chief.

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—Our correspondent (S. D.) informs us that a bear was killed a sheep for J. N. Worth of Phillips, on Friday night.

On the following night a trap was set and the bear caught, but the springs were not strong enough to hold him and he made his escape.

—The Kennebec Journal says extensive forest fires are causing a good deal of disturbance, and are spreading quite extensively in Belgrade, in the western portion of the town. The dry weather has made the stuff and underbrush in the forests like timber. On Monday thirty-five farms were out fighting fire. They dug a wide trench in the woods, and the fire went in.

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